Members present: Anna Heard, Gabbie Kelly, Rick Labreque, Tom Palma, Keith Paul, Bob Radlinski

Alternates present: Kristin Aldred, Matt Lipinski

Selectboard members present: Jenn Jones

- 1. Committee introduced themselves (Rick was late to the previous meeting and missed introductions last time).
- 2. Rick discussed the tasks he's completed since the last meeting. He had a call with Henry Herndon discussing community power aggregation.
  - a. Henry will attend our next meeting on the 7th.
- 3. Bob was contacted by Renee Allen, who is on the Exeter Energy Committee.
  - a. Allen is hosting a meet and greet for people in the surrounding towns on 11/22 at 8am.
  - b. Bob and Tom can attend. Keith may attend the meeting.
- 4. Reviewed previous meeting minutes.
  - a. Tom made a motion to approve the minutes. Bob seconded. Motion passed.
- 5. Reviewed committee purpose/ mission- what else we want to focus on besides community power.
  - a. Tom wants to take steps get all town buildings audited.
    - i. Jenn informed the committee that Eversource will do a walk through of municipal buildings for free.
    - ii. Easy recommendations will likely be lighting and weatherization. One town cut their energy consumption by 50% by switching to LED lights in municipal buildings and street lights.
    - iii. The town would have to pay for a formal energy audit.
    - iv. Zero percent on bill financing is available as an option to pay for any improvements made by the town.
    - v. The committee needs to recommend the Selectboard contact the school, library, and Eversource regarding an energy audit.
  - b. Rick reiterated Kris' interest in a fuel inventory audit.
    - i. Next step is to reach out to Karen to access town contracts for fuel.
      - 1. Goal is to gain a document that lists all town accounts, kWh expected usage, BTU inventory, who manages the accounts, what guidance do they have on renewing contracts?
    - ii. Keith asked how we buy our fuels- the town has a set rate for the winter. The town does not have any large fuel storage capability at this time.
  - c. Collaborate with the communications committee to improve education to residents on energy efficiency/ ways to decrease electric bills.
    - Maybe come up with a community challenge to increase efficiency.
      Gabbie offered to create a content calendar for social media posts.
    - ii. Gabbie and Keith will research informational programs to use in Brentwood.

- iii. The committee will reach out to the Communication Committee to discuss social media posts.
- d. Rick will keep an eye on energy related legislation going through Concord. Knowing the cycle of legislation and tracking progression through committees.
  - i. He recommends to only track bills that have passed- there are too many potential bills that die in committees.
  - ii. Kristin and Matt volunteered to review legislation.
  - iii. Anna knows the Executive Director of the NH Sierra Club, who follows legislation closely.
  - iv. Kristin will reach out to Clean Energy NH regarding legislation tracking.
- e. Tom asked if we're planning to educate homeowners on getting their homes weatherized.
  - i. He mentioned concern about the PUC cutting fundings for residential energy audits.

## 6. Community power

- a. Outlined the immediate steps needed to aggregate. More to come in the future.
  - i. Step 1- the Selectboard votes to approve signing the Joint Powers Agreement. Non binding and free.
  - ii. Step 2- Electric Aggregation Plan to establish a document outlining terms/conditions on community power.
    - 1. Bob has drafted a plan, which outlines the primary goal as cost savings.
    - Part of the plan is to evaluation the coalition and other competitors. The choice does not need to go in front of the voters. The voters decide if they want the town to aggregate. The Selectboard decides who the town will get energy from.
    - 3. Bob will distribute the draft to all members of the committee.
- b. Discussed the timing on if we want to bring this decision (accepting an Electric Aggregation Plan) to vote at the March town meeting. Members were unsure if we would be ready in time.
  - Keith mentioned that voting "yes" in March gives us more options, including the option of not joining the CPCNH. Not voting in March/ voting "no" gives us no options.
  - ii. The first 12 towns are going to launch joining the coalition and their utility rates in spring 2023. The second launch is spring 2024. We would have a year of reviewing the first 12 towns and the benefits/ disadvantages of joining the CPCNH before we get the change to launch in 2024.
- c. One of the main obstacles of getting the town to vote yes will involve gaining the town's trust.
  - i. We will host two public hearings, which can be part of a Selectboard meeting, for a town Q&A.
- 7. Keith will talk to Henry to get a timeline/ steps between now and town meeting.
- 8. Rick was hesitant to vote on the committee recommending the Selectboard approve the JPA since Kris was absent. However, two alternates were present so the vote could take

- place. All other committe members didn't want to wait to hold the vote because of the short timeline we have before the March meeting.
- 9. Tom made a motion to accept Matt as a voting member. Bob seconded. Motion passed.
- 10. Gabbie made a motion to make a recommendation to the selectboard that they adopt a JPA. Anna seconded. 6 in favor, 1 (Matt) opposed. Motion passed.
- 11. Rick expressed his interest in being the member on the CPCNH board.
- 12. Matt moved to adjourn the meeting. Tom seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:06pm.